

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Newsletter of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services

September/October 2004

## Governor's Message

### Awarding excellence in P2

In today's economy, pollution prevention has become an ever more necessary element to safeguarding the environment, protecting our employees, and creating cost savings through implementation of new efficiencies. Additionally, with the need throughout the world for greater security, implementing pollution prevention best management practices can advance an organization's emergency preparedness. For these reasons I am pleased to deliver the welcome address at the 12th Annual Pollution Prevention Conference, which will be held on September 21, at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. This conference, which occurs during Pollution Prevention Week, will feature workshops on the latest strategies and advances in pollution prevention with an emphasis on homeland security issues.



Governor Benson

I also look forward to, along with DES Commissioner Michael Nolin, presenting the annual Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards at the conference. These awards, established in 1994, recognize New Hampshire businesses and organizations that have successfully reduced or eliminated wastes at the source; increased the efficiency in the use of raw materials, energy, water, or another resource; and/or protected natural resources using conservation techniques.

I want to express my appreciation to all of the sponsors of this collaborative effort, including the University of New Hampshire, DES Pollution Prevention Program, EPA Region 1 New England, WasteCap Resource Conservation Network, BIA-NH, DRED, NH Small Business Development Center, and Keene State College.

Craig R. Benson  
Governor

## Back to school time!



**State gets EPA grant.** *US Rep. Jeb Bradley and US Sen. John Sununu (4th and 5th from left) join EPA Administrator Robert Varney (center) in presenting the grant award for retrofitting school buses to DES Air Resources Director Robert Scott and Nashua and Manchester officials. Story on page 8.*

[More back to school articles page 4](#)

## Commissioner's Column

### DES enhanced by transferred programs

The beginning of the new state fiscal year brings new challenges and opportunities to DES. I think both are representative in the reorganization of several state agencies that occurred as a result of Senate Bill 534, adopted last session. Under this legislation, DES has gained several new bureaus and programs, including the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health (BEOH), the New Hampshire Coastal Program (NHCP), and, for a short time, the New Hampshire Estuaries Project, which will reside at DES before being placed permanently at the University of New Hampshire. *(See page 3 for more on these programs.)*

The BEOH comes to us from the Department of Health and Human Services. Its focus is on protecting the public from various sources of environmental risks. Through its programs for Health Risk Assessment, Occupational Safety

Reorganization, *continued on page 2*

## Reorganization *continued from page 1*

and Health Consultation, and Radon and Indoor Air Quality, BEOH provides a natural complement to many existing functions of DES, but more importantly enhance our capabilities and response to protecting public health here in the Granite State.

A further complement to existing DES programs has been the addition of the NH Coastal Program, which has become a new section in our Watershed Management Bureau. For years, NHCP has worked collaboratively with the DES Wetlands and Watershed Management bureaus. I anticipate their relocation from the Office of State Planning to strengthen the coordination of a variety of projects and programs we have ongoing in the New Hampshire coastal zone.

I am excited about incorporating these programs under the DES umbrella, and I am confident that this reorganization will increase our agency's effectiveness. I welcome the new programs to DES, and would like to express my appreciation to the staff and management of these programs for their patience during the reorganization process.

Michael P. Nolin, *Commissioner*

## SEPTEMBER 21 Annual P2 Conference

With the presentation of the  
Governor's Award  
for Pollution Prevention  
**Holloway Commons, UNH**  
**Durham, NH**

For more information go to  
[www.learn.unh.edu/pollution/](http://www.learn.unh.edu/pollution/)

## Gulf of Maine Council gavel passes to DES Commissioner *State chairs international panel on the marine environment*

**D**ES Commissioner Mike Nolin took the helm as chair of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment at its June 24 meeting, marking the end of Nova Scotia's one year term and the beginning of New Hampshire's Secretariat year. The Secretariat jurisdiction is responsible for convening meetings and maintaining the Council's daily operations.

The Gulf of Maine Council is a U.S.-Canadian partnership of government and non-government organizations working to maintain and enhance environmental quality in the Gulf of Maine to allow for sustainable resource use by existing and future generations.

In accepting the gavel from the Honorable Kerry Morash, Minister of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour, Nolin acknowledged the hard work of the Council during the past year and looked forward to the challenges ahead.

"The Gulf of Maine is one of the top priorities of DES, and the Council has a 15-year track record of addressing environmental issues and setting the agenda for this important international water," said Nolin. "During the upcoming year, the Council will continue its work on environmental indicators, providing the sound science and data interpretation needed by resource managers to make decisions supporting a sustainable Gulf of Maine."

A key event, the Gulf of Maine Summit, will be held October 26-29 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, to develop a consensus on indicators and a corresponding action plan.

As Secretariat, New Hampshire will host Council meetings in December and June, which offer Nolin and his colleagues from Massachusetts, Maine, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia the opportunity to make decisions on environmental issues through deliberation and consensus. ■



*The Honorable Kerry Morash (left) passes the Gulf of Maine Council stone gavel to DES Commissioner Mike Nolin.*

## 17th Annual International Coastal Cleanup Day September 18



To volunteer,  
call Mary Power (603) 431-9366

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



*Environmental News* is a bimonthly publication of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

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## Coastal Program moves to DES

On July 1, the New Hampshire Coastal Program (NHCP) became a new section in the Watershed Management Bureau, as a result of recent legislation, which moved the NHCP from the Office of Energy and Planning to DES.



The NHCP's mission is to "balance the preservation of natural resources of the coast with the social and economic needs of this and succeeding generations." To accomplish its mission, the program focuses on five primary goals:

- To prevent and abate coastal pollution.
- To provide for public access to coastal lands and waters.
- To foster community stewardship and awareness of coastal resources.
- To protect and restore coastal natural resources.
- To encourage a viable economy with adequate infrastructure.

The New Hampshire Coastal Program gained federal approval in 1982 under the provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act, initially for the areas in proximity to the Atlantic shore and the lower Piscataqua River. The program boundary was expanded in 1988 to include Great Bay and the tidal portion of tributary rivers, and again in 2004 to encompass the total area of the 17 tidal municipalities. Along with 34 other coastal zone management programs around the country, NHCP administers NOAA funding, which is used for competitive grants, technical assistance, coordination and facilitation around coastal resource issues, federal consistency review, habitat restoration and outreach and education. NHCP is networked with other state agencies, which help enforce the program's 16 coastal policies and conduct reviews of projects in the New Hampshire coastal zone.

NHCP has special focus areas in coastal non-point source pollution and habitat restoration. In both of these areas, NHCP staff has worked closely with DES coastal staff especially in the Wetlands and Watershed Management bureaus. Now that NHCP is organized within DES, collaboration between programs is expected to increase to benefit New Hampshire's coastal communities. ■

## Environmental & Occupational Health also joins DES

The Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health (BEOH), which will now call DES home, is responsible for protecting the public from environmental health risks from sources at home, at school, in the workplace, or outdoor environments. BEOH achieves its mission through a mix of functions and staff with expertise in toxicology, industrial hygiene, industrial safety, health education, regulatory functions, and environmental epidemiology. The bureau is comprised of three programs: Health Risk Assessment, Occupational Safety and Health Consultation, and Radon and Indoor Air Quality.

The Health Risk Assessment Program responsibilities include assessing the health risks to humans from Superfund and other hazardous waste sites, which includes risk assessment, toxicology, environmental epidemiology, and public education. It develops recommendations for health-based standards for state agencies with regulatory authority that requires environmental toxicology expertise. Also, BEOH provides toxicological consultation services to health care providers, first responders and others during intentional or unintentional biotoxin or chemical releases. It also provides homeowners with contaminated well water with health risk evaluations risk mitigation methods.

The Occupational Safety and Health Consultation Program includes staff with specialized training from OSHA to work with small employers on a voluntary basis to implement effective health and safety programs and voluntarily comply with OSHA standards. This results in businesses avoiding OSHA fines and penalties, reducing workers compensation costs, and improving attendance and productivity. They certify, license, and ensure compliance with regulations regarding asbestos and lead abatement professionals and asbestos disposal sites, and implement a federal program for the inspection of asbestos in schools.

The Radon and Indoor Air Quality Program manages a testing program to collect data on radon concentrations in homes. From this data, it provides information on how to best test for and mitigate radon in water and air, as well as information on radon-resistant new construction methods. The indoor air program also provides information and referrals on strategies to reduce asthma and other respiratory problems due to poor indoor air quality. Finally, it ensures state agencies comply with RSA 10-B, which requires buildings owned, leased, or managed by the state meet seven empirical air quality measures. ■

[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)



# Back to school time!



## Helping schools clean out hazardous materials

The issue of hazardous materials in schools is a growing concern in New Hampshire schools. There are many areas within a school where hazardous chemicals can be found. These include the art rooms, science rooms and laboratories, wood and metal shops, photography rooms, graphic arts and printing rooms, and even the custodial departments (cleaners and pesticides). Nurses' offices may still contain mercury thermometers or mercury blood pressure measuring devices.

Many schools do not have procedures for proper storage, or budgets for disposal of unwanted, unused, and out-of-date chemicals. Some schools may not be in compliance with environmen-

tance with school clean outs. NHPPP staff is available to provide free, confidential, on-site assistance in schools, focusing on the science, art, industrial arts, technology education, and custodial departments.

Mercury in schools is a particularly critical issue. Since January 1, 2001, no school in the state is allowed to use or purchase elemental mercury, mercury compounds, or mercury-added instructional equipment and materials in grades K-12, except measuring devices

and thermometers for which no adequate substitutes exist. Since 2000, NHPPP has been working closely with schools to help them safely dispose of their mercury-containing items. In recently compiled data, NHPPP found that the program has made a significant impact on mercury disposal at schools (see graph).

For more information about managing hazardous materials in schools, please go to [www.des.nh.gov/nhPPP/schools/](http://www.des.nh.gov/nhPPP/schools/) or call (800) 273-9469. ■

## School drinking water tested for lead

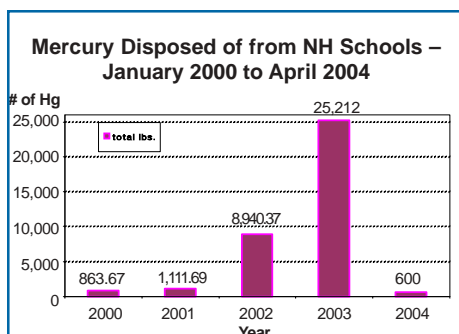
Late this spring, the DES Water Supply Engineering Bureau (WSEB) launched an initiative to gather information about the amount of lead present in schools' drinking water. Medical studies have shown that the consumption of lead at elevated levels, especially by children, may cause damage to their neurological systems, red blood cells and kidneys. WSEB contacted approximately 150 municipal water systems throughout the state requesting that they sample the drinking water for lead in the schools for which they provide water. These systems provide water to about 450 schools.

Where does the lead come from? In New Hampshire, lead does not come directly from the raw water, but rather is the result of the corrosive nature of water coming into contact with a building's plumbing pipes and brass fixtures. Brass can have over 8 percent lead as part of its make-up. Some water used by the state's water systems can be naturally acidic, thus having the ability to dissolve small amounts of copper pipes, brass plumbing fixtures and lead solder when the water comes into contact with them. In theory, over a period of six to ten hours, the amount of lead dissolved and deposited into the water that has been in contact with these items can become excessive.

While water may cause elevated lead levels in drinking water, treatment methods used by many of New Hampshire's water systems can reduce the corrosiveness of water and/or provide a protective coating on the surface of pipes and fixtures thereby protecting them from coming into direct contact with any water. When necessary, treatment methods can reduce lead levels to acceptable amounts below the action level of 15 ppm.

To date, those water systems that have reported sample results show that lead levels in their schools' drinking water is well below the action level of 15 ppm. The remaining water systems taking part in this voluntary program are planning to sample their water early in this school year.

When all the sample results are gathered and reviewed, the WSEB and participating water systems will be better able to determine the extent of the problem, if any, and what measures can be undertaken to correct it. ■



*The above graph shows the amount of mercury disposed of from New Hampshire schools from January 2000 – just after the chemicals in schools program started – to April 2004. The large spike in 2003 is primarily due to the one-time removal of a rubber gym floor that contained mercury.*

tal regulations, and are improperly managing mercury-containing products and hazardous waste chemicals.

The New Hampshire Pollution Prevention Program (NHPPP) is helping schools address their hazardous materials management responsibilities through outreach, site visits and assis-

## West Henniker Dam removed to improve safety, fishing, paddling

### *Ceremony held to launch restoration project*

A controlled breach of the solid concrete West Henniker Dam was executed in June in a ceremony before an enthusiastic audience of community members, anglers and paddlers. The dam's removal, which was accomplished over the succeeding weeks, reconnected a 15-mile stretch of the Contoocook River for the first time in at least a century.

The project was made possible by a diverse public-private partnership with a shared dedication to restoring the Contoocook River, improving recreational opportunities and eliminating a public safety hazard. The DES River Restoration Program coordinated the project and the DES Dam Maintenance Crew conducted the physical removal of the dam. Funding came from a variety of agencies and non-governmental organizations, with the estimated cost of removing the dam at \$160,000.

The dam's removal will increase high quality recreational fishing opportunities that are important to the economy of New Hampshire. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has estimated that in 2001, anglers spent over \$160 million in New Hampshire. Anglers already enjoy excellent fishing in the Contoocook River and the dam's removal will further enhance fishing opportunities. The project will specifically benefit trout, Atlantic salmon and American eel.

The "Tookie," as it is affectionately called by many, is also one of New England's largest and most popular whitewater paddling destinations. The West Henniker Dam was located at the end of a two-mile long stretch of rapids with one legendary section aptly named "Freight Train Rapids." Paddlers have strongly supported the project because the dam's mere existence presented a dangerous safety



**The West Henniker Dam before ... and after.** At left, on-lookers watch as the first hammer blows create a controlled breach in the dam during a ceremony held in June. By mid-August, little was left of the solid concrete dam that spanned the Contoocook River.

hazard. Water spilling over the dam created a current below the dam that was capable of trapping anyone who is washed over the spillway.

The dam removed this summer was built in 1936, although previous dams are known to have existed in the general area as early as the 1780s. The most recent dam impounded and diverted water to a downstream paper mill that closed in 1987. The Town of Henniker took ownership of the property for unpaid taxes and learned in 2000 that the dam was in need of sig-

nificant repair to meet state dam safety requirements. Recognizing the obsolete dam as a financial and legal liability, the town requested DES assistance in removing the dam. As part of the project, historical interpretive signage will be erected at the site in the future. Plans for the 12-acre riverfront property are currently under discussion in the community.

For more information about the DES River Restoration Program, please go to [www.des.state.nh.us/dam/DamRemoval/](http://www.des.state.nh.us/dam/DamRemoval/). ■

## DES expands Asbestos Program outreach

Over the past six months, DES has stepped up outreach efforts to inform municipal officials and the regulated community of the potential release of asbestos fibers, and the health risk that could occur during building demolition and renovation projects. The increased outreach is being done in conjunction with the merging of the asbestos programs from DES's Waste Management and Air Resources Divisions and from the Department of Health and Human Services within DES.

*Asbestos* is the common name for a group of naturally occurring mineral fibers, which are known for their high tensile strength and thermal insulating properties. Asbestos is commonly found in heating system insulation, vinyl floor tiles and sheet flooring, roofing paper and shingles, cement siding shingles, and a variety of other building construction products. When asbestos is disturbed, it can break down into microscopic fibers that may become airborne, where they can then be inhaled, get trapped in the lungs, and pose a health threat. Asbestos is a known human carcinogen, and its use has been strictly controlled since the 1970s.

The greatest potential for exposure to asbestos fibers now occurs when asbes-

*Asbestos, continued on page 8*

# DES adopts new air permit fee system

The DES Air Resources Division recently adopted revisions to the Permit Fee System under Chapter Env-A 700 of the N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, effective this past June 26. The permit fees collected through the fee system support functions related to the permitting process, including:

- Stationary source permitting
- Air toxics program
- Stationary source planning, including rule development
- Compliance assistance and public outreach
- Emissions trading programs
- Dispersion modeling
- Compliance Functions, including inspections, reporting, enforcement

The previous permit fee structure was established in 1995 as an emission-based fee structure with limited charges for permit reviews and stack testing and monitoring. Since 1995 when that fee structure was established, program complexity has increased dramatically in all function areas, resulting in increasing costs to adequately support required programs. The revenue generated by the previous emission-based fees was not sufficient to meet these increasing costs, prompting the adoption of the revised permit fee system regulations.

The revised Permit Fee System under Env-A 700 includes the following fees.

**Application Review Fees:** All new sources of air emissions are subject to either an Application Review Fee for Temporary Permits (\$2,000) or an Application Fee for Air Toxics Review (either \$500 or \$1,000 depending on whether a permit is required). These fees apply to new sources only, i.e., source locations that have not been paying emissions-based fees.

**Modeling Fees:** New sources that are subject to the Application Review fees described above may also be subject to an air dispersion modeling fee of \$2,500 (or \$1,500 for sources only subject to the air toxic pollutant regulations). This fee is discounted for applications that include consultant prepared modeling analyses.

**Testing and Monitoring Fees:** All sources are subject to testing and monitoring fees for testing and monitoring conducted by DES as required by temporary permits. Charges are determined by the number of employee hours spent multiplied by the employee's hourly rate.

**Emission-Based Fees for all Permitted Sources:** Holders of Temporary Permits, Title V Permits, State Permits to Operate, and General Permits are required to pay annual fees

based on their actual emissions, up to a maximum of 6,000 tons per pollutant per facility. For fees due in calendar year 2004, the fee rate is \$85.37 per ton of emissions.

More information and examples of the revised Permit Fee System can be found at the DES website under "What's New." Any questions should be directed to Craig Wright, Administrator, Stationary Source Management Bureau, at (603) 271-1370 or [cwright@des.state.nh.us](mailto:cwright@des.state.nh.us). ■



**DES staff attend EPA Brownfields Conference.** Brownfields staff and Waste Management Division Director Tony Giunta attended an EPA-sponsored one-day conference on brownfields redevelopment at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Mass., on August 4. Pictured are Mike Wimsatt, John Liptak, Tony Giunta, and Paul Heirtzler.

## DES staff receive Governor's Incentive Awards!

A number of DES employees have recently been recognized by the Governor's Office and presented with a Governor's Incentive Award. These awards are given out to state employees based on a "good idea" or "going the extra mile" for the benefit of the state. The awards may be either a non-monetary award or a monetary award. The funds come from the Governor's salary.

We would like to congratulate the following DES employees for being recognized for their extraordinary efforts and achievement: Jody Connor and Rick Treiss, Water Division; Jeff Underhill, and Rudy Cartier, Air Resources Division; Pam Matott, Commissioner's Office; and Pam Sprague and Carroll Brown, Waste Management Division. ■



## Long-term DES staffers retire

**D**ES saw several retirements of long-term employees this past summer. The following offers tribute to those dedicated staff members.

**Charlie Dyer** retired at the end of June after 20 years of service with the DES. Charlie started as a lab scientist in the DES laboratory. He developed the Lab Certification Program and has been the program manager since 1987. Charlie gained national recognition and awards for his personal efforts in improving environmental laboratory data and making laboratory certification/accreditation a nationally recognized accrediting authority. He has licensed labs in over 25 states. In retirement, Charlie and his wife Patricia plan on traveling in their RV seeing the country, family and friends.

**Don Greenwood** retired at the end of May after 30 years of service with DES and its predecessor agency. He began work with the subsurface division in 1972, and for the last 15 years Don worked for the Water Supply Engineering Bureau. Don grew up in Concord and was very active in high school sports. He received a bachelor's degree in wildlife management at Colorado State and took additional courses at UNH. Don's an expert fisherman, having made major trips that included quite an adventure to Alaska. Don intends to stay in New Hampshire and enjoy the great outdoors.

**Ken Marschner**, Administrator of Waste Management Programs, came to DES in 1980 following 11 years of teaching high school chemistry. He was instrumental in the development of New Hampshire's new hazardous waste program and the implementation of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Before long, Ken was placed in charge of the hazardous waste program, where he earned a reputation for consistent and fair enforcement of the regulations. In the mid-'90s, Ken was given additional responsibilities, including the solid waste program, making him responsible for half of the division's activities, and a key advisor to the division director. Ken's commitment to the environment, to the department and to his colleagues was well known and much appreciated.

**Russell A. Nylander**, P.E., Chief Engineer of the Water Division, began his career with DES in 1966 as a Senior Sanitary Engineer. During 38 years of state service, Russ represented the agency on a myriad of task forces, boards and committees including most recently the Oil Fund Disbursement Board, State Emergency Response Commission, and Hazardous Materials Transportation Advisory Board. He also served as New Hampshire's Commissioner on the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission since 1991. Russ's knowledge and expertise in administering and coordinating the engineering aspects of the various programs throughout the division made him an invaluable resource to DES. He will be greatly missed by those who

Russ mentored and befriended over his career with the state.

**Bev Aranosian**, Water Supply Engineering Bureau, retired in August after working 25 years in a number of state agencies. For the last five years, she has worked for DES. Bev was born in Concord and has been a resident for most of her life. She is a great cook and likely will continue using that talent after retirement. Bev has been an active skier, but back problems are now forcing her to refocus her energies toward something a little more reserved, like golf. She is also looking forward to traveling to far away places.

It was reported in the last newsletter that **Judy Bloom**, Subsurface Section, had retired. We're happy to report that Judy has decided to put off her retirement and stay at DES.

## "Green" paint program hits stride *Environmentally friendly disposal of paint products encouraged*

**"I** field more questions about how to dispose of paint than any other household waste product," said Melanie Wheeler, Household Hazardous Waste Program coordinator for DES. In response to these many queries, Wheeler's program has successfully initiated a "green" paint public-private education campaign on the proper methods of disposing of surplus household and commercial paint.

The campaign, a partnership between DES and paint retail stores in New Hampshire, has begun distributing informational materials to educate consumers at the point-of-purchase about the possible disposal problem that may result from unwanted leftover paint.



*Capital Paint and Wallpaper Owner/President Jim Barklow hands out educational information to paint buyers.*

need some for a touch up job in the future and because there may not be a convenient disposal option. Eventually, it is brought to a household hazardous waste (HHW) collection event and results in large financial costs to the municipalities and the HHW grant program.

"Latex paint can be disposed of in your trash once it has  
"Green" Paint, *continued on page 8*

Due to the way paint is packaged, priced, and used, the consumer generally purchases more paint than they need, and end up with left over paint. There is a tendency for the homeowner to hang on to leftover paint "just in case" they may

## Asbestos

*continued from page 5*

tos containing building materials (ACBM) are disturbed during either building renovations or demolitions. To protect public health and reduce the risk of exposure to asbestos fibers, state regulations require that all building owners and contractors take specific steps to identify and address asbestos hazards in structures prior to beginning any work that might disturb asbestos containing materials.

Many individuals and contractors are not aware of the asbestos regulations or that asbestos could be present in the materials they encounter during a renovation or demolition project. To help inform the public, DES is reaching out to code enforcement officers and building inspectors to ask them to provide asbestos information to residents and contractors whenever building or demolition permits are issued.

In a parallel effort, DES is asking waste container companies to provide information on the asbestos requirements to their customers who use their waste containers at construction, renovation, and demolition job sites. DES is planning a similar outreach approach for building contractors during the fall. The goal of these efforts is to protect contractors, employees, homeowners, and the public from unintentional release of and exposure to asbestos fibers.

With the consolidation of the asbestos programs within DES, all information on asbestos can be obtained from one place. For any information, including but not limited to state and federal regulations, inspection and notification forms, lists of certified asbestos consultants, approved asbestos waste disposal facilities, and lists of licensed abatement contractors, contact Steve Cullinane, Air Resources Division, at (603) 271-1370 or 800-498-6868, or visit the DES website at [www.des.nh.gov/ard/asbestos.htm](http://www.des.nh.gov/ard/asbestos.htm). ■

## State gets EPA grant to retrofit buses in Nashua and Manchester

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently awarded a \$100,000 grant to DES to retrofit at least 45 school buses in Manchester and Nashua with pollution control technology. The grant was awarded to DES in partnership with the Manchester School District, Nashua School District, Manchester Transit Authority, and First Student of Nashua. The retrofit project will result in significant reductions in small particle pollution and toxic emissions from the diesel exhaust emissions of the 45 buses.

The \$100,000 is a 2004 Clean School Bus USA demonstration grant awarded through a nationwide competitive process. The federal funds will be matched with local contributions of over \$30,000. Installation of diesel oxidation catalysts on the buses will begin this fall and be completed within the next one to two years. ■

### *"Green" Paint, continued from page 7*

dried completely," explained Wheeler. "Oil-based paints, stains, varnishes, and paint thinners should be disposed of properly at a HHW collection event. These products present different hazards to the environment and should never be dumped down the drain, sewer, or on the ground. Homeowners should contact their town for more information and dates of HHW events."

In addition to educating the public about proper disposal methods, the goal of the campaign is to affect behavioral changes that can lead to a reduction or the elimination of the amount of oil and latex paint that is disposed of, thereby decreasing the cost and environmental impact of these wastes to the community.

The campaign is continuing to reach out and add more paint retail stores to its list of partners. Certain stores, such as Capital Paint and Wallpaper and A&B Lumber, both located in Concord, have been instrumental in helping the campaign get rolling. The stores provide consumers with a number of informational items, including paint can stickers, paint stirrers, and informational brochures that contain helpful tips on paint disposal.

For more information on the "green" paint education campaign, please contact Melanie Wheeler at (603) 271-2047 or [mwheeler@des.state.nh.us](mailto:mwheeler@des.state.nh.us). ■



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